

Alaska U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

2011 Student Employment Program

Intern Request Form

Please Complete all information listed in BLUE

Kenai Fish and Wildlife Field Office

FWS Office

43655 Kalifornsky Beach Road	Soldotna	AK	99669
Address	City	State	Zip

Douglas Palmer	(907)-262-9863	douglas_palmer@fws.gov
FWS Project Leader	Phone	Email

Ken Gates	Fishery Biologist,	(907)-260-0126	kenneth_gates@fws.gov
Intern Supervisor (if different)	Title	Phone	Email

May 21, 2011	Soldotna, AK
Start Date for internship	Location of Internship

Housing/Travel

No.

Does the internship location require the intern to have his own vehicle to get to work?

NONE

What kind of public transportation is available in the area?

YES

Will you or another FWS staff be able to pick up the intern at the airport if needed?

ENA-Kenai, AK

Nearest airport to the internship location

Yes

Will your office be able to provide housing for your intern?

Housing Description:

Co-ed, share sleeping spaces, shared kitchen, in a bunkhouse facility while training in Soldotna and in a remote field camp on the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge.

Required Training

Check all the apply to this position

★	IT Security Training, QuickTime, General USFWS Overview
X	Bear Safety
X	Firearms
X	Boat Safety and Operation
X	Aircraft Safety(required for travel in government float planes
X	CPR and wilderness first aid
	ATV Training
X	Site/Job Specific (please describe): Fish sampling methods, fish id.

Intern Position Description

Biological Science Technician (Fisheries)

GS-0404-02, 03, 04, or 05

Position Title

GS or WG and what level?

DUTIES

Please note the duties the intern will be performing

As a **Biological Science Technician** (Fisheries) you will:

- Participate on a field crew operating fish counting weirs using underwater video technology on tributaries to the Kenai River;
- Collect biological data from fish species including lengths weights, and scale samples for aging;
- Perform habitat surveys using appropriate methods;
- Operate and maintain a variety of scientific field sampling equipment;
- Live in a remote field camp accessible only via aircraft and boats for the duration of the project with limited means to communicate with the outside world;
- Operate an outboard skiff on small rivers;
- Assist with camp chores including cooking, dishwashing, boat and camp maintenance, trash and other assigned duties;
- Work and travel safely and effectively in difficult environmental conditions and in bear country.

EDUCATION LEVEL, SKILL, INTERESTS

Please note specific skills, competencies, interests, classes selected, or other qualifications that would be useful for an intern to have in order to make a significant contribution on this project.

This is a field-based position in southcentral Alaska and requires **greater maturity** and **emotional resources** than positions that are solely office based. Field work is difficult with biting bugs and **strenuous working conditions** in this remote environment. Days are long and sometimes wet with blowing rain. It is also essential that the intern be **enthusiastic** and willing to **learn new skills** both scientific and outdoor oriented. The intern should also have exacting attention to detail for required data collection and management. The intern should have an interest in fisheries and be capable of living in a remote field camp for extended periods of time. Relevant course work, work experience, or hobbies include fishing, boating, and fisheries classes, such as ichthyology or biology. Intern must be willing and able to work in bear country and use a firearm to protect themselves and others if necessary. Intern must be capable of operating motorboats in challenging environments, be comfortable around flowing waters, and be capable of swimming. Other skills including use of data processing including word and spreadsheet programs are a plus.

WORK CONDITIONS, CLOTHING GEAR

Describe the work conditions (hours, dress code, environment/setting) and appropriate clothing/gear that the prospective intern should be aware of

The work is 7 days a week. The intern will be expected to work 40 hours per week, with overtime paid for work performed during weekends. The field camp is remote and communications are limited. The intern should bring field clothes that they are comfortable getting dirty. Rain gear (jacket and pants) will be provided. It is also recommended that the intern bring clothes, such that he/she can dress in layers. The temperature in Alaska from May to August ranges from 35 – 70 degrees (F) and weather can change dramatically within a day, with changes in altitude and across the state. Thus, the ability to add and remove clothes based on weather conditions is important. There are limited places to buy outdoor gear in Kenai.

Cotton clothing is not recommended for field work, but is fine for Soldotna-based duties. Cotton gets wet and if it is next to the skin can rapidly remove warmth from the body. Synthetic fibers such as polypropylene, capilene, polar fleece, etc. are preferred. Wool is a good natural fiber as it keeps it's "warmth" even when wet.

Also, the intern should bring, gloves, a warm hat, a baseball cap, sunglasses, hiking boots, comfortable loose clothing since the job entails being outside and strenuous hiking. Headlamp, flashlight or small battery operated reading light, and a calling card or cell phone when in Soldotna or Anchor Point.

FWS to Provide: Waders, wading shoes, hip boots, mosquito jackets and headnets, any equipment needed in the field, such as field vest, sleeping bags, cook stoves, binoculars etc.